

## Class Struggle Simplified\*

	<div> <div>Feudalism</div> <div>Past</div> </div>	<div> <div>Capitalism</div> <div>Present</div> </div>	<div> <div>Socialism</div> <div>Future</div> </div>
<b>Ruling Class</b>	King and Lords	Bourgeois	Working Class
<b>Also known as</b>	Traditional Leadership, Monarchy, Autocracy, Tsarism	Capitalists, Bosses, Burgers, Free Enterprise	Proletariat
<b>Characteristic</b>	Fixed, static, hierarchical, brain-dead.	At first, revolutionary and progressive, later conservative and reactionary	Revolutionary
<b>Ideology</b>	Superstition, mysticism, idealism, religion, scholasticism.	At first, humanist, rational, scientific, then later irrational, idealist, obscurantist.	Materialist, humanist, dialectical, progressive.
<b>Location</b>	Rural	Urban	Reunites town & country
<b>Relations</b>	Violence; paternalism. Private land-ownership hardly allowed.	Capital exploits labour (ownership private, production social).	Social (alienation of production from ownership is ended).
<b>Production</b>	Basic	Industrial	Advanced
<b>Origin</b>	Roman Empire (slavery, idle proletariat, military)	Towns within feudalism	Capitalist organisation of labour.
<b>Usual Alliances</b>	Imperialism, finance capital	At first, proletariat. Later, feudal remnants	Against feudalism - the bourgeoisie. Against Imperialism - the national bourgeoisie.
<b>Final form</b>	Constitutional Monarchy	Imperialism	Communism
<b>Co-exists with</b>	Capitalists in towns, free peasants and petty bourgeois.	Proletariat, petty bourgeois, lumpen-proletariat, feudal remnants.	Remains of all previous classes. Socialism works to abolish class division altogether.
<b>The State</b>	Globalist hierarchy with the Pope at the top.	Nation-state with monopoly of violence.	Nation-state as defence against Imperialism; but after world-wide abolition of class, no state as we know it is required.

### Outline sketch of events in the history of class struggle

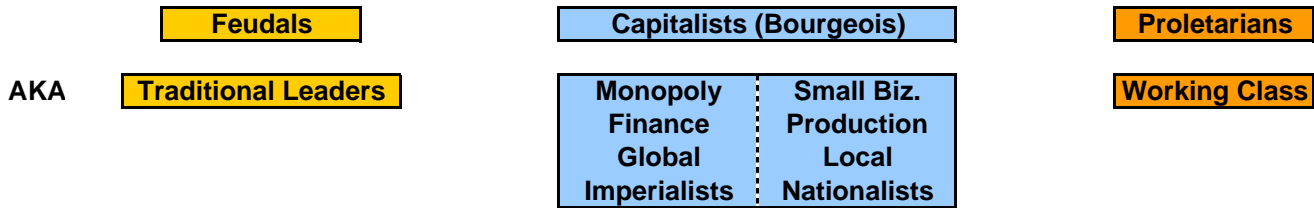
Pre-history: primitive communism	from c.10,000 BC
Development of animal husbandry & agriculture; basis of class division	10,000 - 5,000 BC
First Cities: Mesopotamia (Iraq), Egypt, Indus Valley (Pakistan). Class division.	5,000 BC
Homer writes "Iliad" & "Odyssey" in Greece: first literature of class struggle!	800 BC
"Golden Age" of Greek Republics: Pericles, Plato, Aristotle, democracy & slavery	400 BC
Sharp class struggles in Roman Republic: Gracchi, Marius, Sulla, Cicero, Caesar	c. 100 BC
Octavian ("Augustus") declared Emperor. Class relations fixed, formalised.	27 BC
Final degeneration of Roman Empire of the West, leaving fixed, feudalistic class relations. Feudalism not completely removed from Europe for 15 centuries.	400 AD
"Dark Ages": rural feudalism in Western Europe	400 - 900 AD
Feudalistic urbanism in China, India, Central & South America	from 1000 BC
"Middle Ages": bourgeois cities under feudalism in Western Europe	from 900 AD
Anti-feudal mercantile city states in Italy, e.g. Florence, Venice.	from 1200
Height of Italian Renaissance: Humanist, Materialist, Secular.	1400 - 1500
1st modern bourgeois state results after war liberating Netherlands from Spain	1555 - 1588
2nd major bourgeois state: England overthrows, then constitutionalises, monarchy	1649, 1688
3rd major bourgeois state: The French Revolution	1789
<b>Class struggles in France, and bourgeois revolution in Europe</b>	<b>1848 - 1850</b>
4th major bourgeois state: The American Civil War	1861 - 1865
The Paris Commune: attempted proletarian revolution in France	1871
Imperialism (global finance enforced by violence) makes its first war, in South Africa	1900
Bourgeois revolutions in Russia	1905 & 1917 (Feb.)
Great October Soviet Socialist Revolution	1917 (Oct)
Fascist Reaction	1922 - 1945
Defeat of Fascism thanks to Soviet Union	1945
Liberation period creates bourgeois states across entire planet	1945 - 1994
Proletarian socialism established in China & Cuba	1940s & 50s
Collapse of the Soviet Union	1990
Imperialism again resorts to open warfare (Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq)	1990s, 2001, 2003
The future: complex class struggle. Bourgeois anti-imperialist nationalists and proletarians unite to defeat imperialism.	21st century

### Events in French Bourgeois Revolutionary History

Fall of Robespierre and the Jacobins	1794
Napoleon Bonaparte seizes power as "First Consul" (the original "18th Brumaire")	1799
Napoleon Bonaparte declared "Emperor"	1804
Napoleon resigns after defeat at Waterloo. Charles X restored as monarch.	1815
"July" monarchy of Louis Philippe	1830
Louis Napoleon's return from exile	1848
"June" proletarian insurrection defeated	1849
Abolition of universal suffrage	1850
Louis Napoleon's <i>coup d'état</i> (subsequently declared "Emperor")	1851/2
The Paris Commune	1871

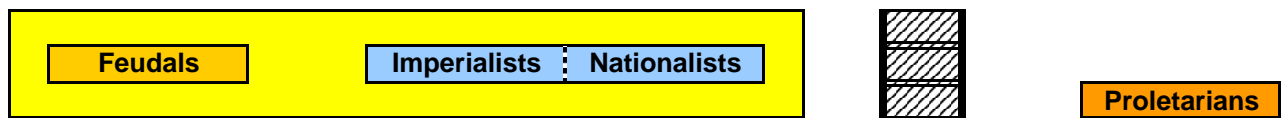
## Class alliance possibilities in South Africa, including the NDR

**Classes in SA:**

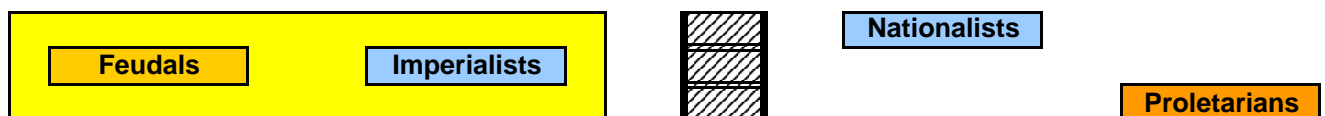


*South Africa is a capitalist state. The bourgeois class dictates the dominant relations of production. But SA's capitalist revolution is incomplete. Feudal "Traditional Leadership" rules large sections. And the proletariat is organised. Also, the bourgeois class is in two parts, with potential to crack apart.*

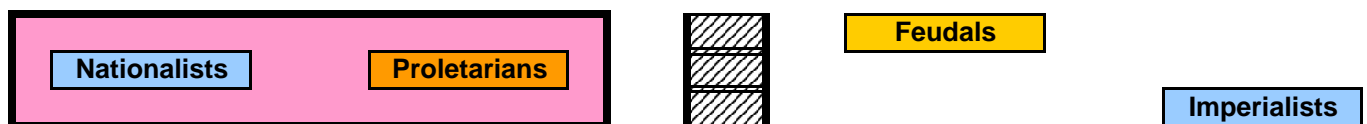
Some Bourgeois elements have sought an alliance to isolate the Proletariat, like this:



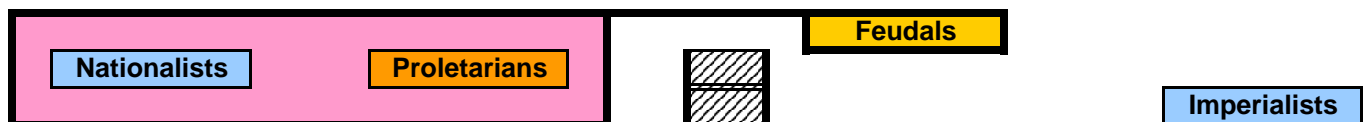
Imperialism, strategically, seeks to destroy Nationalism but will ally with Feudals, if necessary, thus:



The Proletarians and the Nationalists seek national development. Imperialism and Feudalism do not. Therefore Proletarians seek a ruling alliance, called National Democratic Revolution (NDR), like this:



In South Africa, the NDR attempts to include some feudal elements:



The aim of the NDR is national development.

The nature of the NDR is anti-imperialist.

*Note: Although the NDR represents progress and an advance of the interests of the working class, it is still a capitalist state.*

The future:

1. The NDR must make alliances with other anti-imperialist states.
2. The proletarians must organise themselves to advance their interests further.